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Processes of history. By Frederick J. Teggart, associate professor of history, University of California. (New Haven: Yale university press, London: Humphrey Milford, Oxford university press, 1918. 162 p. \$1.25 net)

The author has attempted in a tentative way to develop a philosophy of history under the guise of suggesting how it should be studied and written. In the brief resumé of various interpretations of history he has made some excellent suggestions to the writers as well as to the readers of history. He differentiates the problem of the biologist in his scientific researches from that of the historian but indicates how far the Darwinian concept of evolution is serviceable in the processes of history. The author attempts with a fair degree of success to harmonize the conflicting claims of those who have sought to explain history as the effect of environment and those who hold to the "humanistic" theory. While avoiding the dogmatic, he has made a clear and forceful presentation of some of the difficulties in the path of the honest historian and he must be commended, above all, for keeping his discussion free from the learned rubbish with which this subject has usually been encumbered in the past. This brief and lucid statement of his position gives reasonable grounds for the hope that the author will elaborate in a more complete form the thesis he has so clearly set forth in the present work.

History of the American people. By Charles A. Beard and William C. Bagley. (New York: Macmillan company, 1918. 678 p. \$1.20)
The demand for revision of our grammar and secondary school programs in the field of American history in recent years has proceeded along several lines. There was first the demand that western history be given due recognition. Later, the change of emphasis from political and military to industrial and social topics won favor. Now we are asking for the expansion and reorganization of our history since the civil war. The text under review represents a response to these demands. The topic western migration and life is given chapters, instead of paragraphs. A chapter dealing with the settlement and progress of the Rocky mountain and Pacific states since the civil war is unique.

The most pronounced feature of the book, however, is found in the chapters dealing with industrial and social events and changes. The industrial revolution of a century ago thus assumes its proper place in American history. In the period since the civil war the topics industrial development, immigration, and combinations of labor and capital have distinct chapters. In each period, too, there are chapters upon the development of our educational systems and upon the advance of democratic ideas and practices. Thus the boys and girls are given opportunity to learn more about the origin and growth of those commonplace

features of our life in all its phases than is offered by any other text of this grade.

The principal fault of the book is found in the fact that this fresh material is sometimes presented in language too difficult for the grammar school student. Too often the style smacks of the college lecture room. Doubtless the children of college professors will manage it readily, but the great majority are of another type. The authors' style, however, possesses an originality and virility that makes it particularly attractive.

The pedagogical helps consist of questions and exercises found at the ends of chapters. These are sometimes intended merely to recall the facts of the text; again, they are excellent examples of thought questions. There are also topics and references for collateral reading.

The authors have made decided progress in the direction of topical rather than chronological grouping in the arrangement of subject matter. This is marked in the period since the civil war and is most commendable. The book closes with a good chapter upon the great war and our entrance into it.

In respect to both historical accuracy and physical make-up, the text is on a plane with the best of its rivals.

A. H. SANFORD

American spirit. A basis for world democracy. Edited by Paul Monroe, Ph.D., LL.D., Director school of education, Columbia university, and Irving E. Miller, Ph.D., department of education, Washington state normal school (Yonkers-on-Hudson, New York: World book company, 1918. 336 p.)

Under the thesis that there is "one American Spirit" and that not "loose amalgamation ready to fall apart under special stress and tension," the authors have selected the loftier phases of American history with a trend toward effervescent idealism. The revolutionary fathers now come into their own in well-chosen quotation, but the framers of that "sacred" document the American constitution have been overlooked, perhaps outlawed because of their distrust of democracy; is this not a conspiracy of silence such as the all too flexible espionage act warns against? Later the ante bellum renegade, William Lloyd Garrison, is allowed to herald "liberty for all" as part of "the faith of the fathers," while President William McKinley proclaims "American ideals not imperialistic" in "The fight for a cause." In general the attempt is made to take the emphasis from the things that have divided us by "exalting the things that unite us in 1918." In the introduction the blame for the American revolution is laid at the feet of the "German king, George III." Yet Lord Charnwood lecturing on this subject found the causes mainly in the corruption and factionalism of parliamentary govern-